

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN

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JOEL SCOTT FLAKES,

Plaintiff,

v.

JON E. LITSCHER, et al.

Defendants.

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ORDER

Case No. 16-cv-836-slc

On December 27, 2016, this court entered an order directing plaintiff Joel Scott Flakes to submit by January 19, 2017 an initial partial payment of the filing fee in the amount of \$107.28. Now plaintiff has filed a letter, which I construe as a motion to use release account funds to pay the entire fee for filing this case. However, with the exception of initial partial payments, federal courts lack the authority to tell state officials whether and to what extent a prisoner should be able to withdraw money from a release account. Therefore, plaintiff cannot use the release account funds to pay the entire balance of the \$350.00 filing fee.

The only amount plaintiff must pay at this time is the \$107.28 initial partial payment. Before officials take any portion of that amount from plaintiff's release account, they may first take from plaintiff's regular account whatever amount up to the full amount plaintiff owes.

Since the court has not yet received plaintiff's \$107.28 initial partial payment and the deadline was January 19, 2017, the court will provide plaintiff with an enlargement of time until February 10, 2017 to pay the initial partial payment.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that,

1. Plaintiff Joel Scott Flakes's motion for use of release account funds to pay the entire filing fee in this case is DENIED.

2. Plaintiff may have until February 10, 2017, to submit a check or money order made payable to the clerk of court in the amount of \$107.28. Before officials take any portion of that amount from plaintiff's release account, they may first take from plaintiff's regular account whatever amount up to the full amount plaintiff owes.

3. If by February 10, 2017, plaintiff fails to make the initial partial payment or show cause for failure to do so, plaintiff will be held to have withdrawn this action voluntarily and the case will be closed without prejudice to plaintiff filing at a later date.

Entered this 20th day of January, 2017.

BY THE COURT:

/s/  
PETER OPPENEER  
Magistrate Judge